

If the Examiner has any questions regarding the amendment presented herein, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the telephone number shown below.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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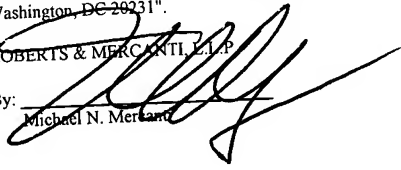
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ROBERTS & MERCANTI, L.L.P.

By:



Michael N. Mercanti

310.1028

**UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Examiner: Unknown Art Unit: Unknown  
Re: Application of: FEENSTRA, Frits Kornelis  
Serial No.: To be assigned  
Filed: herewith  
For: **METHOD FOR MAKING A DENTAL ELEMENT**

**APPENDIX I**  
**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Claim 3 has been amended as follows:**

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the shape and dimensions of the dental element are measured in a patient while using an optical scan technique, preferably a laser technique.

**Claim 5 has been amended as follows:**

5. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein layers of a suitable material are successively applied onto each other by three-dimensional printing and wherein each layer is bonded at desired positions to a preceding layer thereby allowing the removal of excess, non-adhering material.

**Claim 8 has been amended as follows:**

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 6 [or 7], wherein the binder is selected from the group of colloidal silica, polyvinyl acetate (PVA), starch adhesives, acrylates, polyvinyl alcohol, polyethylene oxide (PEO), ethylenevinyl acetate (EVA) and derivatives thereof.

**Claim 9 has been amended as follows:**

9. (Amended) A method according to [claims 6-8] claim 6, wherein the powder is selected from the group of ceramic materials, such as  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CaO}$ ,  $\text{Ba}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CrO}_2$ ,  $\text{TiO}_2$ ,  $\text{BaO}$ ,  $\text{CeO}_2$ ,  $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{MgO}$ ,  $\text{ZnO}$ ,  $\text{Li}_2\text{O}$  and combinations thereof, and metals, such as alloys of gold, platinum, palladium, nickel, chromium, iron, aluminum, molybdenum, beryllium, copper, magnesium, cobalt and tin, and combinations of metals and ceramic materials.

**Claim 10 has been amended as follows:**

10. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 6-9] claim 6, wherein the layers are applied with a doctor blade.

**Claim 11 has been amended as follows:**

11. (Amended) A method according to [claims 6-10] claim 6, wherein the powder is applied in dispersed form.

**Claim 14 has been amended as follows:**

14. (Amended) A method according to [claims 11-13] claim 11, wherein at least one layer differs in composition from the others.

**Claim 15 has been amended as follows:**

15. (Amended) A method according to [claims 12-14] claim 12, wherein the powder is locally applied with a computer-controlled nozzle.

**Claim 16 has been amended as follows:**

16. (Amended) A method according to [claims 12-15] claim 12, wherein at least one of the powders has an average particle size less than 50 nm.

**Claim 17 has been amended as follows:**

17. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the dental element is sintered at a temperature of 400-800 °C for a period between 10 minutes and 3 hours.

**Claim 19 has been amended as follows:**

19. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1, wherein the dental element is additionally shaped by grinding, filing, polishing, sanding, blasting or treatment with a ball bed.

**Claim 20 has been amended as follows:**

20. (Amended) A dental element obtainable by a method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1.

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